

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1, 7, 9-11, 13, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Takahashi et al. (US 5,862,095). Claims 2-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5, 6, 8, 12, 15, and 16.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Independent Claims 1, 10, and 14 have been amended to overcome this rejection and to address the questions raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 1, 7, 9-11, 13, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Takahashi.

Claims 2-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to recite interchanging between operation modes, which was previously included in Claim 5 and which is subject matter that Examiner has indicated is allowable subject matter. More specifically, Examiner objected

to Claim 5 in the Office Action of June 24, 2003, and explained in a phone conference on June 15, 2003 between the Examiner and Applicants' attorney Jeff Kirshner that the ability to switch between modes, previously recited in Claim 5, constituted allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to include this subject matter. Therefore, Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-9 depend from Claim 1, therefore Claims 2- 9 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent Claim 10 has been amended to incorporate subject matter of Claim 12 relating to interchanging between operation modes, which the Examiner indicated is allowable subject matter. The incorporated subject matter of Claim 12 is similar to the subject matter of Claim 5 that has been incorporated into Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 10 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

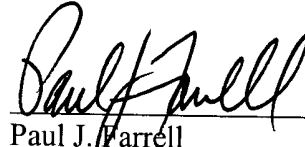
Claims 11-13 depend from Claim 10, therefore Claims 11-13 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Likewise, independent Claim 14 has been amended to incorporate subject matter of Claim 15 relating to interchanging between operation modes, which the Examiner has indicated is allowable subject matter. The incorporated subject matter of Claim 15 is similar to the subject matter of Claim 5 that has been incorporated into Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 14, along with dependent Claims 15 and 16, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that pending Claims 1-16 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written over a horizontal line.

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